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A.—(*a*) The hon. Member presumably refers to the appointment of M.R.Ry. N. Raghunatha Ayyar as an Accountant in the Government Press in January 1925 when M.R.Ry. R. Ayyaswami Pillai was reverted from the post of head clerk in which he was then officiating to that of an ordinary clerk. M.R.Ry. Raghunatha Ayyar was not recruited to work the commercial system of accounts. His appointment was found necessary because there was no one in the Press who had passed the tests prescribed for the Accountant's post.

(*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) M.R.Ry. Raghunatha Ayyar was competent for and keen on the work for the performance of which he was recruited and he was confirmed in that post from 1st October 1925. His knowledge of a commercial system of accounts has no bearing on the question of his confirmation in the Accountant's post. A separate Accountant was appointed to work the commercial system.

(*e*) The Government do not consider that any enquiry is necessary.

Alleged discontent of the employees of the Government Press.

* 800 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received complaints that the promotions and reductions and dismissals in the Government Press service have become very arbitrary, unjust and numerous for the last one or two years, and that the general state of affairs in the Government Press is far from satisfactory so far as the services are concerned; and

(*b*) whether the Government will consider the desirability of instituting a thorough enquiry into the grievances of the Press employees at an early date and take necessary action to alleviate the discontent prevailing in the department?

A.—(*a*) The answer is in the negative.
(*b*) The Government do not consider that such an enquiry is necessary.

Alleged dismissal of three compositors in the Government Press.

* 801 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that three compositors were dismissed for taking part in the employees' agitation for redress of grievances;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Superintendent of the Government Press holds the formation of an association or union of employees in the Press with the help of outside public workers as unconstitutional; and

(*c*) whether it is also a fact that the employees of the Government Press are threatened directly and indirectly with punishments if they join the Union or take an active part in the affairs of the Union?

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A.—(*a*) Three compositors were dismissed from service not because they took part in an agitation for the redress of grievances, but because they were guilty of acts of indiscipline and other irregularities in connexion with the submission of memorials to Government. They have all been restored to service.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No.

List of employees of the Government Press fined and suspended.

* 802 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to lay on the table a complete and exhaustive list of employees of the Government Press promoted, reduced, fined, suspended and dismissed during the course of the last five years with the reasons for the same?

A.—A list [a] is laid on the table.

Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED:—"May I know whether the hon. the Home Member will be pleased to state the general reasons for such a large number of dismissals, punishments and stopping of promotion, etc., as shown in the appendix?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The question has already been answered."

Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED:—"I do not find the answer. I want to know the general reasons that have led to these unimaginable number of punishments."

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The reasons why they were punished and dismissed are given in the statement."

Deputy Collectors

Addition to the permanent cadre of Deputy Collectors.

* 803 *Q.*—Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA: With reference to the answer to question No. 5 answered on 23rd August 1927, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have arrived at a final decision with regard to the question of adding to the permanent cadre of Deputy Collectors?

A.—The Government have not yet arrived at a decision.

Land Revenue

Control of porambokes by panchayats.

* 804 *Q.*—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO: With reference to the reply to clauses (*e*), (*f*) and (*g*) of my question No. 387 regarding the control of porambokes by panchayats answered on 27th August 1927 that the Government had no information, will the hon. the Member for Revenue and the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be now pleased to call for the information and place the same on the table of the House?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

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[a] Printed as Appendix XI on page 402 infra.